

All amendments should be made to the substitute specification filed with the AMENDMENT of January 2, 2003, and all page and line references below refer to that substitute specification.

Please replace the paragraph at page 8, line 28 – page 9, line 4 with the following amended text:

The workpiece 12 is sent onto the workpiece's XYZ Θ table 13 from a magazine by a loader (not shown). The workpiece's XYZ Θ table 13 includes an X-table [[for]] that acts in the X-direction in a plane, a Y-table that acts in the Y-direction in a plane, a Z-table that acts upward and downward, and a Θ -table that provides for rotation. The Θ -table is on the upper stage, with holding table 23 for fixing the workpiece 12 attached on the Θ -table. In the present invention, the positioning mechanism for the workpiece 12 includes the workpiece's XYZ Θ table 13 and the holding table 23.

Please replace the paragraph at page 14, lines 16-22 with the following amended text:

Next, the pressure inside the cavity 6 in the head 4 is returned back to atmospheric pressure and the balls are mounted on the workpiece 12 with the help of the self-weight of the ~~head 4~~ ball 2 and an adhesive strength of the flux 27. Then, the head 4 is raised slowly 1 cm and the ball mounting process is completed. In step 11, the head 4 is clamped again and returned to step 2. In step 12, the workpiece 12 is sent to a process that follows step 11, such as an inspection, a reflow soldering or a cure process.

Please replace the paragraph at page 16, lines 9-21 with the following amended text:

To precisely ~~controlling~~ control the amount of flux 27 applied to the balls 2, the following method is preferable. First, a flux layer is formed by a blade in a thickness which corresponds to an amount to be applied, and then the head 4 is counterbalanced so that the effective head weight is substantially equal to zero. Next, once the head 4 is lowered until each tip of the balls reaches the bottom face of the flux layer (the bottom of the depression that holds the flux) which is formed to a predetermined depth, the head 4 is raised slowly. Since the head 4 has an effective weight of zero because the head weight is substantially counterbalanced, the head 4 does not apply substantially any load to each ball 2, even if the head 4 makes each tip of the balls 2 lower still further after each tip of the balls 2 reaches the lower face of the flux layer and contacts with the bottom of the depression. In other words, each of the balls 2 does not stick firmly into the suction holes 25 disposed on the head bottom 4.